

**STATE BOARD ADVISORY PANEL
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Arizona State Advisory Panel for Special Education held a meeting at Arizona Department of Education, 1535 W. Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, AZ on January 18, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Members Present

J'Anne Affeld
Nancy Allen
Johanna Bookbinder
M. Diane Bruening
Susan Douglas, Co-chair
Molly Dries
Phyllis Green
Rebecca Hall
Erik Jensen
Kathy McDonald
Megan McGlynn
Terisa Rademacher, Co-chair
Jane Ellen Reid, Vice-chairperson
William Smith
Sue Tillis
Kay B. Turner

Others Present

Lynn Busenbark, ADE/ESS
Joanne Phillips, ADE/ESS
Jeannette Zemeida, ADE/ESS

Members Absent

Kathleen McCoy
Tona TreeTop
Marta Urbina

Minutes Approved (As Read)(As Amended)


Chairperson: _____

Signature

Date

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
1. Call to order.	Susan Douglas, Co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.	1. None
2. Approval of November 16, 2004 minutes	Kay Turner made a motion and seconded by Nancy Allen to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2004 meeting.	2. Motion carried
3. Public comment.	Terisa Rademacher welcomed the public in attendance. She explained to those present the procedures for making a comment. Anyone wishing to comment on an agenda item was asked to fill out a brief questionnaire stating which agenda item they wished to comment on. That person would then be called on when that item was discussed.	3. None
4. SEAP	<p>Ms. Rademacher welcomed Johanna Bookbinder, a new member to SEAP. Attending SEAP members introduced themselves, informed everyone which category they were representing and gave a brief description of why they became members.</p> <p>According to SEAP by-laws, the By-laws must be reviewed once a year. Ms. Rademacher asked for volunteers for the Review Panel. Joanne Phillips and Susan Douglas volunteered.</p> <p>Joanne Phillips informed the Panel that IDEA 2004 has added a new category for the Special Education Advisory Panel which will go into effect July 1. The new category is for a parent of a student with a disability who has graduated. She was not sure of the specifics. ESS is waiting for the regulations to come out. This membership change will need to be added to the By-laws.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher disseminated a draft of the 2003-2004 Annual Report. The Teacher Certification subcommittee had previously submitted two reports for the Annual Report. Kay Turner made a motion and seconded by Nancy Allen to table the review until Kathleen McCoy, a member of the subcommittee, arrived.</p> <p>Dr. McCoy did not attend the January meeting. As a result, the SEAP members addressed the Teacher Certification subcommittee report after lunch.</p> <p>The SEAP Committee reviewed two documents that were presented by the Teacher Certification Subcommittee. The first document, included in the original draft version of the Annual Report, was written by former SEAP member June Wood. It addressed each of the four original goals developed by this subcommittee. SEAP members acknowledged the amount of research and work that went into meeting each of these goals. The document was comprehensive and provided valuable background information for subcommittee recommendations. The document also included recommendations for changes in regular and special education certification. The second document presented by SEAP subcommittee members and a community partner, Mary Arredondo, primarily addressed specific</p>	4. Motion carried

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	<p>recommendations for changes in regular and special education teacher certification in Arizona. It also discussed the need for certification in the area of autism/autism spectrum disorder. SEAP members reviewed both documents to ensure that recommendations of all subcommittee members were considered and included in their recommendations. In addition, SEAP members added several recommendations that were not in the original documents.</p> <p>The Teacher Certification Committee and SEAP members agreed on the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A task force should be created for the purpose of establishing criteria for certification in the area of autism/autism spectrum.2. Teacher preparation institutions should develop alternative forms of student teaching opportunities. As a minimum, these should include actual teaching under the guidance of a mentor and opportunities for candidates to be compensated while they are fulfilling this requirement.3. Teacher preparation program requirements should include the following minimum coursework:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✚ Nine hours of differentiated instruction✚ Three hours of training in classroom management including training in positive behavioral supports.✚ Three hours of classroom discipline✚ Three hours of a special education survey class that includes not only identifying and understanding disability categories; but also, methods and strategies of teaching students with those disabilities.4. Members of the committee recommended a number of other changes to current certification requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✚ In core subject areas, special education certification requirements should align with those required for regular education certification. Committee members were particularly concerned about the lack of required coursework in the area of reading.✚ The 15 contact hours of SEI currently required for certification and recertification should include preparation in cultural and economic diversity.	

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	<p> All teacher education programs should embed critical thinking as a transferable skill across the curriculum.</p> <p>SEAP members also felt that to more closely align Arizona teacher certification with NCLB legislation, they should consider at a future date splitting the special education certification into two divisions that more closely mirrored regular education certification (K – 8 and 7 – 12.) This would bring special education certification into alignment with the “highly qualified” mandate of NCLB.</p> <p>It was agreed by SEAP members that this area required further review and discussion. Nancy Allen motioned that the SEAP committee include an abbreviated version of June Wood’s report in the Annual Report and that SEAP address specific certification recommendations at a future meeting. Sue Tillis seconded the motion.</p>	
5. Early Childhood Special Education Certification	<p>Karen Woodhouse, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Early Childhood, Arizona Department of Education provided the Panel with a brief history on the Early Childhood Certification and Endorsement, which was recently approved by the State Board of Education.</p> <p>A group of practitioners began to discuss the need for an Early Childhood teaching certificate four years ago. The proposal was finally approved at the December 2004 Arizona State Board meeting.</p> <p>The Attorney General’s (AG) office will now need to do a legal review. Once it is approved by the AG’s office the proposal will be filed with the Secretary of State’s office. It will become part of Arizona Administrative rules 90 days later.</p> <p>The certificate is intended to be available and appropriate for anyone teaching early childhood programs servicing children birth through age 8. The certification will be required for teachers servicing children birth through Kindergarten and recommended for teachers in grades 1-3. The requirement doesn’t become effective until July 1, 2009. This will give students who are currently in preservice coursework time to adjust their coursework, if needed, and finish school. This will also give higher education institutions time to adjust their coursework offering to make sure they meet all the requirements.</p> <p>The next goal for Early Childhood is to look at the requirements that are currently in the Arizona Administrative Code for the Early Childhood Special Education Certificate.</p> <p>Cheryl Blackwell, Preschool Coordinator, Early Childhood, Arizona Department of Education discussed the Early Childhood Special Education Certificate.</p>	5. None

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	<p>The Early Childhood Special Education Certificate is included in the State Improvement Grant (SIG), goal 3. The goal requires an increase in coursework in early literacy.</p> <p>Ms. Blackwell told the committee that Early Childhood is creating a committee to review the requirements of this certificate. The first meeting is in early March. Ms. Woodhouse told the Panel that if they were interested in serving on the committee to contact her or Ms. Blackwell. The goal is to have the committee work done by Fall of 2005.</p> <p>Ms. Woodhouse and Ms. Blackwell fielded questions from the Panel.</p>	
6. Subcommittees	Subcommittees did not meet due to lack of time.	6. None.
7. Graduation/Diplomas	<p>As of the SEAP meeting, the AG'S opinion had not been released. As a result, the Graduation/Diploma subcommittee had not met since the previous SEAP meeting. The Panel discussed the affects of testing special education children based on the outcome of the AG's opinion.</p> <p>Mrs. Chris Usher asked to speak to the Panel regarding Graduation/Diplomas. She told personal stories of parents and their children who could be affected if their children with special needs are required to pass the AIMS test in order to graduate. Mrs. Usher also told her personal story of her own daughter's learning experience. Mrs. Usher's e-mail address is Christineu@earthlink.net.</p>	7. None
8. Annual Performance Report	<p>Dr. Lynn Busenbark reported that ADE has received the report from US Dept. of Education (USDOE) regarding Arizona's monitoring visit and the Annual Performance Report (APR).</p> <p>The initial report stated that there may be previously unidentified areas of noncompliance. Dr. Busenbark gave an example of parent participation percentages. USDOE feels that the percentage was too low. ESS has determined that we gave USDOE too much raw data information. In the future, the report should state that specific areas are not a systemic problem.</p> <p>On the next APR a lot of the information gathered in the self study will be reused since ESS discovered areas where Arizona could improve but was not out of compliance.</p> <p>Arizona will no longer be able to allow a two-year closeout on monitorings. Monitorings have to close in one year. This will need to be changed immediately.</p> <p>OSEP determined that Arizona is also out of compliance in counseling. They have determined that Arizona has an inadequate number of staff to providing counseling services. Dr. Busenbark and SEAP discussed this finding.</p>	8. None.

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	Dr. Busenbark read portions of the "Letter of Findings" to SEAP and outlined other areas of noncompliance as determined by OSEP.	
9. Exceptional Student Services	<p>Joanne Phillips will be traveling to San Diego on Feb. 11, 2005 to attend the US Department of Education hearings on IDEA 2004 regulations.</p> <p>Ms. Phillips led the Panel through a brief review of IDEA 2004. The effective date is July 1, 2005. Areas discussed included Highly Qualified Teachers, Early Intervening Services, Parental Consent and IEPs.</p> <p>Karen Johnson and Diane Mignella, Education Program Specialists, ESS spoke to SEAP regarding the Monitoring Team ("M" Team). The M Team is reviewing monitoring changes that will come about due to IDEA 2004. The M Team reviewed all the forms that are currently being used, including Prior Written Notice (PWN). The team currently monitors for every time the PWN is expected. Ms. Johnson asked for input on the following suggestion: 1) monitor, but less often (eligibility, FAPE); 2) review as same now, but not in so many areas; 3) keep as is, revise another component of monitoring instead. Monitoring consists of only a sampling of the district's files, not the file of every special education student. After a lengthy discussion SEAP recommended the districts be monitored for major functions: permission to evaluate, eligibility, placement, and annual IEP review.</p> <p>Ms. Phillips updated SEAP on new ESS staff. Froma Cummings has joined the Phoenix ESS staff as the new Assistive Technology specialist. Cynthia Bryant has joined ESS as an additional transition specialist. The Tucson office is currently fully staffed.</p> <p>The RFP with Southwest for assistive technology will end on June 30, 2005. One of Ms. Cummings' duties will be to develop an AT team similar to the TBI team which is responsible for technical assistance throughout the state.</p>	9. None
10. Next meeting and agenda items.	<p>The next SEAP meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2005 meeting. The following items are standing agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Subcommittees◆ By-law Review <p>No other items were discussed.</p>	10. None.
11. Adjournment	Seeing no further business, Ms. Rademacher adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.	11. Adjournment.